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CARE OF ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT

If the directions accompanying electric appliances have been mislaid, _____ (name), _____ (agr. engineer or home-management specialist) says they may be summed up as follows: Operate the appliance as instructed. Keep it clean and covered when not in use. Oil as required. Watch the cord that connects the appliance to the source of current and repair or replace it promptly if it becomes worn or frayed.

In handling an appliance cord, _____ says, always grasp it by the plug and not by the cord itself. Rough handling is hard on the fine wires inside the cord and will eventually cause them to break. Then they may cut through the protective covering in which they are wrapped. The cord should not be twisted or bent. Bicycle tape may be used to wrap a cord where it has become worn and thus prolong its life.

For best service an electric washing machine should not be overloaded either with clothes or water. In starting the machine, first start the motor and then throw the machine into gear. In stopping, throw the machine out of gear before turning off the motor. Wringer rolls, of course, should have the tension released when left. The machine should be stored in a dry, clean place.

Best results with an electric iron come from keeping its sole or bottom surface clean, being careful not to scratch it. It is important that the iron be disconnected when not in use, and, if there is a temperature regulator, current and time are saved by setting it at the proper point for the

fabric to be ironed.

Clean the dust bag of a vacuum cleaner regularly but never wash it because washing will remove the "filler" in the fabric which helps to make the bag dustproof. Bits of glass, pins, or metal objects, if picked up with a vacuum cleaner, may clip the fan blades or make holes in the dust bag. Sparking of the motor is usually the result of worn brushes. These may be replaced.

The enameled parts of an electric range may be washed with soap and water or a mild abrasive when the range is cold. Metal parts may be polished with metal polish or whiting. Food spilled on cooking units is simply burned off and any particles left in the grooves brushed out with a soft brush.

Electric refrigerators require but little attention. The food compartment, of course, needs cleaning whenever anything is spilled and at regular intervals.

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